

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-8 are currently amended, with Claims 1-8 being amended. Reconsideration and reexamination of the claims are respectfully requested.

The Examiner objected to the drawings in that Figs. 7-10 contain language inconsistent with the specification. Applicants hereby submit amended drawings Figs. 7-10 and respectfully submit that the drawings and the specification as amended comply with formal requirements.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the Roland VS-1680 Owner's Manual ("Roland"). This rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to the amended claims.

As previously communicated, the present invention is directed to a digital mixer having, *inter alia*, a parameter control that selectively changes either a parameter value displayed at a cursor position of a display, or an assigned parameter value amongst a plurality of parameter values for a selected input channel (depending on whether a selection switch of a channel strip is operated, as the claims have been amended to recite). According to the present invention, a user can position a cursor at a specific parameter displayed on the display (via operating cursor buttons) and change the value of the cursor positioned parameter by, e.g., turning a dial (*see* step S41 in Fig. 10). In addition, a user can change the value of an assigner selected parameter of a channel by turning a dial while operating a selection switch corresponding to the channel (*see* Step S37 in Fig. 10). In this respect, the user is able to temporarily use the dial to change a parameter other than a parameter at which a cursor is positioned (on the display).

The claims have also been amended to recite that, on the one hand, if a selection switch (*e.g.*, one of the SELECT/CH EDIT buttons 4) of a channel strip is operated while an

increase/decrease control (*e.g.*, a “TIME/VALUE Dial 13) is operated, then the parameter controller changes the values of a parameter (selected by an assignor) of an input channel corresponding to the channel strip (this is shown as Step S36 and Step S37 in Fig. 10 of the present application). If, on the other hand, none of the selection switch is operated while the increase/decrease control is operated, then the parameter controller changes the value of a parameter that corresponds to a displayed cursor position (see Step S36 and Step S41 in Fig. 10). Accordingly, the parameter value to be changed depends on whether a switch of a channel strip is operated while an increase/decrease control is operated.

Roland does not contain any disclosure or suggestion of a parameter control or controller that selectively adjusts different parameter values depending on whether one of multiple selection switches of the channel strips (the mixer section) is operated while an increase/decrease control is operated (*see, e.g.*, pp. 15-17 of the present application).

Rather, as previously communicated, the “Change the Setting Values,” as referenced in page 35 of Roland teaches that the value of a parameter displayed at the cursor position is always changed in response to a user operation of the level control, regardless of whether any of the selection switches on an input channel is concurrently operated. This is in contrast to the present invention as recited in the amended claims, which provide that

Accordingly, in view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-4 and 6 are not anticipated by, nor obvious in view of, Roland.

The Examiner rejected Claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Roland VS-1680 owners manual. This rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to the amended claim.

Claims 7 and 8 depend from Claim 1. As provided above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is not anticipated by, nor obvious in view of, Roland. Accordingly, Applicants also submit that dependent Claims 7 and 8 are also not obvious in view of Roland.

The Examiner rejected Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roland in view of Hugley (U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2003/0144997 A1). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 depends from Claim 4. As discussed above, Roland does not contain any disclosure or suggestion of a parameter control that selectively adjusts different parameter values depending on whether a selection switch of a given input channel is operated at the same time while an increase/decrease control is operated. Hugley fails to make up for the deficiencies of Roland in that Hugley discloses only the general concept of a pop-up dialogue box. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 5 is therefore not obvious in view of Roland and Hugley.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no.393032044200. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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